

Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /071 W

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R 211530Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3379

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL TANGIER

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 218

NEW DELHI FOR SEARING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, MO

SUBJECT: PALACE-UNFP CONTACT PROBABLE SOON

REF: CASABLANCA 180

1. RELIABLE UNFP SOURCE TOLD LABOFF MARCH 21 THAT PALACE AND UNFP SEC GEN ABDALLAH IBRAHIM HAVE FINALLY BEEN IN CONTACT AND THAT IBRAHIM EXPECTS SEE KING WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK. DISCUSSIONS ARE EXPECTED TO CENTER ON POSSIBLE UNFP PARTICIPATION IN NEW GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD INCORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES OF MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES.

2. SOURCE SAID THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN KING AND IBRAHIM HAVE REACHED NEW LOW PARTLY BECAUSE IBRAHIM, UNLIKE OTHER PARTY LEADERS, DID NOT PAY COURTESY VISIT TO KING WHEN LATTER WAS RECOVERING FROM HIS RECENT OPERATION. IBRAHIM EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS HIMSELF CONVALESCING FROM PNEUMONIA DURING THIS PERIOD (TRUE), BUT KING ALLEGEDLY FURTHER IRRITATED

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WHEN HE LEARNED THAT IBRAHIM NEVERTHELESS MANAGED ATTEND

AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION FEBRUARY 13, 1975 FOR CODEL IPU
VISIT.

3. ADDITIONAL IRRITANT IS CONTINUING SUSPENSION OF DAILY
PAPER OF UNION MAROCAINE DU TRAVAIL (UMT), IBRAHIM'S
TRADE UNION ALLY. (SEE REFTEL.) PAPER HAS NOT APPEARED
SINCE MARCH 3, DEPRIVING UMT OF ITS MEANS OF REACHING
NON-TRADE UNION PUBLIC AND FOREIGN EMBASSIES. FOR SOME
REASON THIS IS PSYCHOLOGICALLY IMPORTANT TO UMT SECGEN
BEN SEDIK, AND THIS IS WHY PAPER PUBLISHED IN FRENCH RATHER
THAN ARABIC.

4. IBRAHIM'S TALK WITH KING, IF IT DOES IN FACT TAKE PLACE,
WILL BE CRUCIAL IN DETERMINING WHETHER UNFP/UMT IS TO REMAIN
IN OPPOSITION, PROBABLY MORE STRIDENT AND AGGRESSIVE THAN
BEFORE, OR WILL JOIN GENERAL POLITICAL CONSENSUS THAT
APPEARS TO BE DEVELOPING IN MOROCCO.
BRUBECK

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